

CLASSIFICATION <u>SECRET</u>		
COUNTRY <u>East Germany</u>	REPORT	
TOPIC <u>Cottbus Airfield</u>		
EVALUATION		PLACE OBTAINED
DATE OF CONTENT		
DATE OBTAINED		DATE PREPARED <u>25 August 1954</u>
REFERENCES		
PAGES <u>2</u>	ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)	
REMARKS		

1. During the first part of July 1954, there was air activity by single-engine aircraft at Cottbus airfield. After several aircraft which had been conducting formation flying landed, a briefing was repeatedly held around the aircraft. On one day, 4 trainer aircraft were observed parked at the take-off point. Three of them took off, while instruction was given on the fourth. About 0600 on 3 July, two jet aircraft were towed out of a hangar to the eastern end of the runway. Subsequently, 2 tank trucks and 2 trucks towing two-wheel trailers moved to the jet aircraft. About 0640, the 2 aircraft took off and headed east.

2. Vehicular traffic at the field involved

Trucks

Sedans

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3. The following air activity was observed at the field between 1 and 23 July:
- 1 July. No air activity was observed at the field. Occasionally, MiG-15s or U-MiG-15s crossed over the field. There was a 10/10 overcast and individual rain showers.
- 2 and 3 July. Yak-11s continuously practiced flying in formations of three.
- 5 and 6 July. Yak-18s made local flights of 5 to 10 minutes duration at an altitude of between 300 and 400 meters.
- 7 July. Yak-18s practiced local flying, flying in formations of two and four, and some aerobatics.
- 13 July. Local flights of 5 to 10 minutes duration were made by Yak-18s.
- 15 and 17 July. There was local flying by Yak-11s.
- 21 July. Ten Yak-11s flew in squadron V-formation in the vicinity of the field. The distance between the individual aircraft was 50 to 100 meters. The formation dispersed flying a large left bank and the aircraft landed individually.
- 22 July. Throughout the day, there was formation flying in elements of two by Yak-18s.
- 23 July. Ten Yak-11s individually took off at intervals of 500 meters, subsequently assembled in squadron V-formation and practiced formation flying, with some of the

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aircraft disappearing from view. The interval between the individual aircraft again was 50 to 100 meters. After a flight time of about 30 minutes, the aircraft landed individually. Tank truck [] was observed at the field.

[] Comment. Training activity by the two battalions of Cottbus Aeroclub mainly consists of formation flying with Yak-11s and Yak-18s. The presence of two jet aircraft at Cottbus airfield on 3 July 1954 is probably not connected with the training activity by the Aeroclub.

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